

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 HUD-02 /029 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7596

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

UNCLAS USUN 2194

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,AG

SUBJECT: ALGERIAN MISSION REQUESTS WAIVER OF NYC BUILDING
REGULATIONS

1. FATHIH BOUAYAD-AGHA (ALGERIA) PHONED AND INFORMED US THAT ALGERIAN MISSION HAS PURCHASED FIVE-STORY OFFICE BUILDING AT 15 EAST 47TH STREET OFF 5TH AVENUE. HE ASKED THAT WE SPEAK TO ARCHITECT ENGAGED BY ALGERIAN MISSION TO PLAN RENOVATION OF PREMISES IN CONNECTION WITH ALGERIAN DESIRE FOR WAIVER BY NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITIES OF OBLIGATION OF ARCHITECT TO SUBMIT RENOVATION PLANS FOR CITY APPROVAL.
2. WE SPOKE TO ARCHITECT AND REFERRED HIM TO NEW YORK CITY AUTHORITIES WHO DECLINED TO GRANT WAIVER. AS A RESULT, BOUAYAD-AGHA PHONED US AGAIN AND REQUESTED THAT WE ENDEAVOR TO PERSUADE AUTHORITIES TO GRANT WAIVER. HE STATED ARCHITECT WOULD FOLLOW BUILDING CODE, BUT ALGERIANS DID NOT WANT AUTHORITIES TO KNOW WHAT CHANGES WERE BEING MADE IN BUILDING. WE TOLD HIM WE WOULD CONSIDER HIS REQUEST.
3. WE BELIEVE ALGERIANS HAVE OBLIGATION TO RESPECT LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF CITY OF NEW YORK. OBSERVANCE OF BUILDING CODES IN HIGHLY POPULATED AREAS MUST BE CONSIDERED MANDATORY. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE US TO INFORM BOUAYAD-AGHA THAT ARCHITECT MUST SUBMIT RENOVATION PLANS TO CITY AUTHORITIES IN ADVANCE OF ANY WORK PERFORMED.

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